Rec May 16
Ans — — —

Boston March 11th. 1882

Dr. George Engelmann.

Dear Sir.

In the Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club. January 1882 you say, "Sagittaria natans, Mich., has been noticed by Mr. C. E. Faxon, ~~since~~ a number of years in Charles River, Mass. — — and also as he informs me in Neponset and in Ipswich rivers, where Mr. John Robinson found it."

You probably quoted Mr. Faxon's communication from memory, and so have not got the matter quite correct. On the 22d. of July 1870 I found in the Neponset River, just above Paul's Bridge which is some four miles above tide water, the Sagittaria named above,

which was new to me.
I carried it to Mr. Wm Boott, who said it was entirely new to him, and thought it might be a new species.
I then carried it to Mr. Faxon, who said he had never seen it before.
A week later — July 29th 1870 Mr. Boott went with me to the River, and I went in and collected quite a number of specimens, most of which I gave him. He said he would write to you and send you specimens, which I presume he did. When I next saw him he said he thought it was only a variety of S. graminea.
I then carried specimens to Cambridge, and compared them with S. graminea in the Herbarium of Harvard College, and found them very unlike. Mr. Faxon and I have always thought them distinct Species.
After this, 1870 Mr. Faxon found it ~~[illegible]~~ in Neponset River, about a mile above the

place where I found it, and again in Charles River. Mr. Robinson found it Ipswich River, but not in Neponset.

Respectfully Yours
E. H. Hitchings

20 Chambers St.

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN
GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS